

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior of record fails to disclose the claimed aircraft system. Specifically, the prior art fails to show or make obvious the claimed leading edge device with the claimed structure and where at each of the plurality of spanwise locations the flap or slat has a chord length at least equal to the smallest chord length required to provide a local maximum lift coefficient, or when the leading edge device has the claimed tapered portions as claimed in claim 47.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Claims 29-38, 40-44, and 46-50 are allowed.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J. Woodrow Eldred whose telephone number is 571-272-6901. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Carone can be reached on 571-272-6873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/J. Woodrow Eldred/
Primary Examiner
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JWE